

The Hatchet

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POPULAR • SCIENCE.

It is proposed to establish communication between Zangibar and Pemba by wireless telegraphy.

Electricity is to be used to convey passengers to the top of the Washington monument, in this city.

The city of Newark, N. J., is planning a State Industrial Exposition to be held in their city in 1902.

A mail train on the New York Central Railroad recently made the run from Rochester to Syracuse, eighty-one miles, in eighty minutes.

A quart of oysters contains, on an average, about the same quantity of nutritive substance as a quart of milk or a pound of very lean beef.

The underground railways of London carry only nineteen per cent of the passenger traffic; eighty-one per cent is carried by omnibuses and street cars.

A German method of construction for large balance wheels for high peripheral speeds consists in making the rim by winding a rectangular section steel wire on a cast-iron spool.

The Southern Railroad Company of Italy is going to have built 18 locomotives, 121 passenger cars, 32 baggage cars and 1,000 freight cars. Foreign concerns will be allowed to compete.

An ostrich in the Cincinnati Zoological Gardens is undergoing treatment by electricity for paralysis. Under this treatment the bird has been able to swing first one leg and then the other.

Water, if subjected to great compression and then decomposed by means of an electric current into its elements, hydrogen and oxygen, explodes with tremendous force in the process.

The velocity of light is 192,000 miles in a second. From the sun light comes to the earth in eight minutes. From some of the fixed stars of the twelfth magnitude, it takes four thousand years for the light to reach us.

This has been a record-breaking year for the California orange crop. The yield, it is thought, will be about 4,500,000 boxes or 145,000 carloads. The total investment in California orange groves now amounts to \$44,000,000.

On June 30, 1900, there were 72 warships under construction in the United Kingdom, 54 being for the British Government. Sixteen of the vessels are being built in Royal dockyards and the remaining 56 in private yards.

It is considered very doubtful if the Pennsylvania Railroad will adopt nickel steel rails for the points of severe service. At the famous Horseshoe Curve the nickel steel rails have been replaced by those of the ordinary steel type, for it was found that the rails diminished the tractive power of the engines on account of their hardness.

Two more vessels of the British Navy, the "Diadem" and the "Furious," have been equipped with Marconi's wireless telegraphic apparatus. The receiving coil is suspended to a gaff attached to the mainmast, above the semaphore, which is the highest point on board. The apparatus is fitted to work up to a distance of 20 miles.

Dr. J. H. Breasted, Professor of Egyptology in the University of Chicago, has just been appointed by the Emperor of Germany to superintend the publication of his new Egyptian dictionary. This lexicon will enable students of Egyptology to study the hieroglyphics in the museums throughout the world. This is an excellent compliment to an American scholar.

Small spiders play havoc with the telegraph wires in the Argentine Republic. The long cobwebs settle on the wires, and as soon as dew or rain falls they are rendered to some extent a conductor, and the effect is practically to stop the operation of some of the lines. The Government has determined to connect Buenos Ayres and Rosario by an underground cable 150 miles long to obviate this difficulty.

M. Tissot has succeeded in increasing considerably the sensitiveness of the coherers which he is using in his experiments in wireless telegraphy; the coherer is placed in a magnetic field, whose lines of force are parallel to the axis of the tube. Filings of steel or nickel oxide are used. The system of aerial telegraphy which he now uses enables him to receive signals from the cruiser "Massena" at a distance of 20 miles, with a mast of only 90 feet.

It has been suggested that the electric heaters of trolley cars be connected to the controller on the platform, so that when the highest speed is required the heaters will be cut out. They require some little time to cool off, so that the heating effect will be sufficient. This will reduce the demand for current by the heaters when full speed is necessary. It requires quite a percentage of the total output of the generating plant in the winter to heat the cars.

Madras is the only city in India where electricity is used as the power for street service. The tramways of Bombay are run by horse power and the streets are lighted by gas. Electricity is used only in a limited way. India would seem to afford an excellent opportunity for trade in electrical machinery and appliances. An American company is trying to get the privilege of converting the Bombay tramways into an electrically operated system.

The Peary supply ship "Windward" sailed on July 20 from St. Johns, Newfoundland, and her return will be watched for with great anxiety, as she will be the bearer of news of Peary's success or failure. The "Windward" carries a crew of thirteen, and Mrs. Peary and her little daughter also go to join Lieut. Peary. The boat is loaded to its utmost capacity with coal, even the decks carrying it. The objective point of the "Windward" is Etah, this being the center of the region where are located the Arctic Highlanders, a tribe of Esquimaux who live farther north than any other human beings.

HISTORY.

Washington's life at Mount Vernon, after settlement there as owner, naturally divides into three periods. The first (1755-75) includes his young married life, and ends with the outbreak of the Revolution. The second (1788-89) begins with his return after the Revolution, and closes with his election to the Presidency. The third (1797-99) embraces the close of his life.

The Quincy House in Brattle street, Boston, was founded in 1819, and was the first Quincy granite building, and the oldest hotel in the city now existing. Opposite this hotel is the site of the Brattle Square church, built in 1772 and standing until 1871, with a cannon ball sticking in its side, fired by the American battery at Cambridge during the siege. Then it was the barrack for two regiments of British infantry.

King's Chapel was erected, as the first Episcopal church in Boston, in 1689, was enlarged in 1710, and replaced in 1749-54 by the present house, built by Peter Harrison, one of the architects of Blenheim Palace. Three British sovereigns enriched the chapel with plates, paintings, books, etc., and here the first organ in New England was set up. The vice-regal court and army and navy officers attended service here in State pews, and the walls and pillars bear royal and noble escutcheons. The rector fled to Halifax with the British in 1776, carrying away the valuable plate, and services were discontinued for some years.

In 1785 the society expurgated Trinitarianism from the liturgy and became the first Unitarian church in New England. Washington attended an oratorio here in 1783, clad in black velvet, and gave five guineas towards finishing the portico. On the site of 28 School street, Boston, stood the French Huguenot church from 1714 to 1758; the first Catholic church from 1788 to 1802, and the Universalist church, built in 1817, where Ballou and Chapin were pastors.

Harvard University was founded in 1638, and is still administered under the charter granted in 1650. For two generations after the settlement of the country, Harvard was the only college in New England. While cherished and honored by the State, Harvard University has been from the first a private incorporated institution supported in the main, first by the fees of the students, and secondly by the income from permanent funds given by benevolent individuals.

The United States Navy Yard at Charlestown, Mass., was founded in 1800. It covers an area of eighty-seven acres, and has nearly one hundred storehouses, machine shops, arsenals, shiphouses, etc., etc. Among the war vessels built here were the Independence, seventy-four, Frolic, Vermont, seventy-four, Warren, Farragut's flagship Hartford, the Cumberland and Merrimac (afterwards antagonists), the Wachusett and Huron and the ironclads Monadnock, Nahant, Nantucket and Canonicus.

The Tremont Theater, at 176 Tremont street, Boston, dates from 1889, and occupies the site of the Haymarket Theater, which was formally opened in 1796. The term "lobster" was used in this country as early as 1775 as an indication of contempt.

GEMS OF THOUGHT.

The ideal life—what is it but the realization of our own oneness with the Infinite, and the helping others to realize theirs, showing what can be done through our own living and loving, and by our words bearing witness to the Eternal Verities?—Selected.

Conscience is a sort of alarm clock to keep the soul from sleeping too long. Some of us grow so accustomed to its sound that we do not heed it.—Chatterfield Taylor.

Thank God every morning that you have something to do that day which must be done whether you like it or not. Being forced to work and to do your best will breed in you a hundred virtues which the idle never know.—Charles Kingsley.

Each one has it in his power to make many rejoice in his birth, or to make them rue the day on which he was born.

If you would find a good many faults, be on the lookout; but if you want to find them in unlimited quantities be on the look in.

Nobody, in however an obscure station, can be uniformly sincere, patient, gentle and conscientious without exerting a positive influence on friends and neighbors.

Make sure that however good you may be, you have faults; that however dull you may be you can find out what they are, and that however slight they may be, you would better make some patient effort to get quit of them.—Ruskin.

We are like soldiers in a vast, widely extended battlefield, wrapped in obscurity, of which we know not the phases, of which we seem utterly powerless to control the issues, but we are responsible for our own part—whatever goes on elsewhere let us not fall into that. The changes of the world which men think they are bringing about are in the hands of God. With Him, when we have done our duty, let us leave them.—Dean Church.

Inward toward God we must go continually for spiritual force, outward toward humanity to exercise it. To have any real abiding energy of spiritual force, we must go to God in prayer. We must be men and women of prayer.—George Brown.

God is near—a besetting God on the right hand and on the left, ever educating, disciplining, helping His child, and striving to save and bless him. The world is full of God, the soul is full of God, for He is the omnipresent and all-pervading Spirit of the universe.—H. W. Bellows.

Nothing simplifies life like obedience. We sometimes think we are beset by problems, that life is a very difficult and complicated affair. It is not really so. All life is simply doing or bearing the will of God. There is never more than one duty for one moment.—Rev. H. A. Bridgman.

The life that is hid with Christ will be revealed in eternity.

The miserably irritable and despondent moods which sometimes possess both children and grown people often need only the fresh air and sunlight to drive them out. When you feel that everything has gone wrong, and you are sinking in the quagmire of despair, get in the sunlight, and the clouds will disappear.

CURIOUS FACTS.

A strange clock was made during the last century for a French nobleman. The dial was horizontal, and the figures being hollow were filled with different sweets and spices. Thus, running his finger along the hand, by tasting, the owner could tell the hour without a light.

A statistician has estimated that a man fifty years old has worked 6,500 days, has slept 6,000, has amused himself 4,000, has walked 12,000 miles, has been ill 500 days, has partaken of 36,000 meals, eaten 15,000 pounds of meat and 4,000 of fish, eggs and vegetables, and drank 7,000 gallons of fluids.

The most magnificent work of architecture is the Taj Mahal, in Agra, Hindustan. It is octagonal in form, of pure white marble, inlaid with every sort of precious stone. The work took 22,000 men twenty years to complete, and though there were numerous gifts, and the labor was free, the cost was \$16,000,000.

In Norway, Sweden and Finland women are frequently employed as sailors, and do their work excellently; and in Denmark several women are employed afloat as state officials, generally in the pilot service. They go far out to sea in their boats to meet the vessels coming into port, and having nimbly climbed on board and shown their official diploma, they calmly and coolly steer the newcomers into harbor.

In a large rookery of flying foxes on the island of Tongatatu near Nukalofa, the bats, about eight thousand in number, occupy the tops of four large trees in the midst of the village. The rookery is carefully protected by the chief of the village, who permitted the naturalist to take away only three specimens. It was understood that they had been guarded by the people from time immemorial.

Many birds form their sounds without opening their bills. The pigeon is a well known instance of this. Its cooing can be distinctly heard, although it does not open its bill. The call is formed internally in the throat and chest, and is only rendered audible by resonance. Similar ways may be observed in many birds and animals. The clear, loud call of the cuckoo, according to one naturalist, is the resonance of a note formed in the bird. The whirring of the snipe, which betrays the approach of the bird to the hunter, is an act of ventriloquism. Even the nightingale has certain notes which are produced internally, and which are audible while the bill is closed.

There is a home in Tokio, Japan, where five generations live under the same roof. The family is that of Mr. Kinemon Arai, of Matsunoki, Unemura, Gumma prefecture, who has just entered on his ninety-third year and is still hale and hearty. So is his wife, Naka, who is of the same venerable age. Equally healthy and prosperous are their eldest son, Kakunosuke, and his spouse, who are respectively sixty-eight and sixty-seven years old. Then comes their grandson, Kenosuke, forty-six years old, and his wife, Asa, younger by two years. Twenty-six and twenty-four are the ages of their great grandson, Isamatsu, and his life partner, Toki, respectively, from whose union have sprung a boy of four and a girl.

Local.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

Manager Kernan, of the Lyceum Theatre, will have another big bill of burlesque and vaudeville for his patrons next week, when the Trocadero Burlesque Company commence their engagement. The first part of the programme opens with a skit entirely new and different from anything seen here this season. The company is composed of thirty artists of comedians, singers, dancers, and shapely girls. The comedians do lots of good work and give you plenty to laugh at. The music is bright, tuneful and original. The olio is made up with the following well-known artists: Smith & Champion, Cohen and Gardner, Lew Palmer, Crawford and Washburn, Nelson, Glinseretti and Demonic, Minnie Bell. The closing number of the program, the Burlesque, is quite extraordinary and full of novelties and surprises, and in which appear the Female Drummers, and gorgeous Living Pictures. Messrs. Waldron and Bryant have left no stone unturned to make this organization the best of its kind now before the public, as they have spared neither time nor expense. The scenery, electric effects, costumes are all original and costly. Do not fail to see their big show. Full returns from the Fitzsimmons-Sharkey fight will be read from the stage Friday.

KERNAN'S LYCEUM THEATRE.

Week beginning Monday Mat., Aug. 20

MATINEE DAILY.

WALDRON & BRYANT'S TROCADERO BURLESQUERS.

Full returns Friday, Fitzsimmons-Sharkey fight will be read from the stage.

Next week—T. W. Dinkins, "The Vagabonds."

A DIME. Sample copies of 100 different leading newspapers and magazines sent to any address upon receipt of 10 cents to pay for mailing. U. S. Subscription Agency, 201, 202 Law Building, Indianapolis, Ind.

SEALED proposals endorsed "Proposals for Steel Work," will be received at the Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, Washington, until 1 o'clock, September 1, 1900, and then there will be opened, for furnishing and erecting the steel framework for a gunner's workshop at the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. For plans, specifications, and forms of proposal address MORDECAI T. ENDICOTT, Chief of Bureau, August 14, 1900.

SEALED proposals endorsed "Proposals for Conduit System," will be received at the Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, Washington, until 1 o'clock, September 1, 1900, and then there will be opened, for furnishing and erecting a system of underground conduits and manholes for electric wires at the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. For plans, specifications, and forms of proposal address MORDECAI T. ENDICOTT, Chief of Bureau, August 9, 1900.

HIGH-VIEW HOTEL.

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STEAMER T. V. ARROWSMITH TO

THE PICTURESQUE LOWER POTOMAC.

SAILED MONDAY, 8 P. M. For Colonial Beach, Colton's Piney Point, St. George's Island, Coan, Yeomocoe and Nomini Creek. Arrive at Washington early Wednesday morning.

WEDNESDAY, 3 P. M. For Colonial Beach, Colton's Piney Point, St. George's Island, Coan and Yeomocoe rivers. Arrive at Washington 10 p. m. Thursdays.

SATURDAY, 6 P. M. For Colonial Beach, Colton's Piney Point, St. George's Island, Smith Creek. Home Sunday, 10 p. m. Excursion Ticket, Colonial Beach (Saturday, returning Sunday), Round Trip. See m-8-4 C. W. RIDLEY, Gen'l Manager.

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